Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/852,433	SHAH ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Anh-Vu H. Ly	2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to _after final amendment filed November 03, 2006_.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are _1-3, 6-15, 18-27, and 30-36 renumbered as 1-30._

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the

            International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Dermot G. Miller on November 28, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In The Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a data packet from a source;

determining whether a session identity exists for a communication session with the

source;

encapsulating the received data packet in a flow header including at least two of a flow

message type field, a flow option field, a source port identity field, a destination identity field

and a session identity field in the header of the received data packet;

transmitting the flow header with the received data packet to a destination if no session

identity exists;

receiving the session identity from the destination using the flow header; and

transmitting subsequent data packets received from the source along with the session

identity to the destination.

9.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a data packet from a source through a network node;

determining whether a session identity exists for a communication session with the

source;

in response to the received data packet, encapsulating ~~the received~~ another data packet in

a flow header including at least two of a flow message type field, a flow option field, a source

port identity field, a destination identity field and a session identity field ~~in the header of the~~

~~received data packet~~;

generating a session identity if no session identity exists; and

transmitting the flow header including the encapsulated another data packet to

communicate the session identity to the network node.

13.   (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising:

a ~~machine accessible~~ computer-readable medium including instructions that, when

executed by a ~~machine~~ computer, causes the ~~machine~~ computer to perform operations

comprising:

receiving a data packet from a source;

determining whether a session identity exists for a communication session with the

source;

encapsulating the received data packet in a flow header including at least two of a flow

message type field, a flow option field, a source port identity field, a destination identity field

and a session identity field ~~in the header of the received data packet~~;

transmitting the flow header with the received data packet to a destination if no session

identity exists;

receiving the session identity from the destination using the flow header; and

transmitting subsequent data packets received from the source along with the session

identity to the destination.

21.   (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising:

a ~~machine-accessible~~ <u>computer-readable</u> medium including instructions that, when

executed by a ~~machine~~ <u>computer</u>, causes the ~~machine~~ <u>computer</u> to perform operations

comprising:

receiving a data packet from a source through a network node;

determining whether a session identity exists for a communication session with the

source;

<u>in response to the received data packet,</u> encapsulating ~~the received~~ <u>another</u> data packet in

a flow header including at least two of a flow message type field, a flow option field, a source

port identity field, a destination identity field and a session identity field ~~in the header of the~~

~~received data packet~~;

generating a session identity if no session identity exists; and

transmitting <u>the flow header including the encapsulated another data packet to</u>

<u>communicate</u> the session identity to the network node.

25.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a bus;

a data storage deice coupled to said bus; and

a processor coupled to said data storage device, said processor operable to receive

instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a method

comprising

receiving a data packet from a source;

determining whether a session identity exists for a communication session with the

source;

encapsulating the received data packet in a flow header including at least two of a flow

message type field, a flow option field, a source port identity field, a destination identity field

and a session identity field ~~in the header of the received data packet~~;

transmitting the flow header with the received data packet to a destination if no session

identity exists;

receiving the session identity from the destination using the flow header; and

transmitting subsequent data packets received from the source along with the session

identity to the destination.

33.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a bus;

a data storage deice coupled to said bus; and

a processor coupled to said data storage device, said processor operable to receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a method comprising

receiving a data packet from a source through a network node;

determining whether a session identity exists for a communication session with the source;

in response to the received data packet, encapsulating ~~the received~~ another data packet in a flow header including at least two of a flow message type field, a flow option field, a source port identity field, a destination identity field and a session identity field ~~in the header of the received data packet~~;

generating a session identity if no session identity exists; and

transmitting the flow header including the encapsulated another data packet to communicate the session identity to the network node.

Allowable Subject Matter

2.   Claims 1-3, 6-15, 18-27, and 30-36 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest **encapsulating the received data packet in a flow header** including at least two of a flow message type field, a flow option field, a source port identity field, a destination identity field and a session identity field **and transmitting the flow header with the received data packet to a destination if no session identity exists**, as specified in independent claims 1, 13, and 25.

The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest **in response to the received data packet, encapsulating another data packet in a flow header** including at least two of a flow message type field, a flow option field, a source port identity field, a destination identity field and a session identity field and **transmitting the flow header including the encapsulated another data packet to communicate the session identity to the network node**, as specified in independent claims 9, 21, and 33.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh-Vu H. Ly whose telephone number is 571-272-3175. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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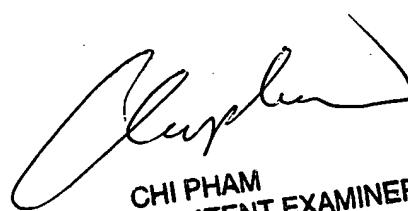
CHI PHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER